

REMARKS

Claims 6-21 are amended. Claims 6-21 are pending.

The amendments to the claims are based on the application as originally filed, so it is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the office action, claims 6-21 were objected to. Claims 6-21 have been amended to positively recite structural limitations, not in passive statements, and in compliance with conventional U.S. practice regarding apparatus claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 6-21 are respectfully requested.

In the office action, claims 6-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as to the term “region”. Claims 6-21 have been amended to recite positively recited structural elements being “substantially adjacent to” or “connected to” other positively recited structural elements, and so such recitations of claims 6-21 are not indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-21 are respectfully requested.

In the office action, it is stated that claims 6-21 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections and rejections. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims have overcome the objections and rejections, and so all pending claims 6-21 are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, entry and approval of the present amendment and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

In case of any deficiencies in fees by the filing of the present amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiencies in fees to Deposit Account Number 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



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